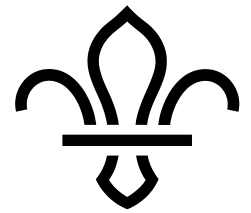


A to Z of Fundraising



This is a fairly extensive list of fundraising ideas. Some ideas are more effective than others; some are better for fundraising as a group and others as an individual

TOP TIP: Before you choose a fundraising activity, first identified the different groups of people you plan to target with it (ie. family, friends, local community, church or faith community, neighbours, scout groups, school, local businesses, parent's colleagues, etc.)

A

Abseil: Scale the dizzy heights of a local landmark or office block.

Advertising Booklet: Compile a local information booklet for distribution at libraries, shops and businesses. Include info on local attractions. Make money with adverts and discount vouchers from local firms.

Aerobics: Organise a sponsored aerob-athon with the help of gyms, leisure centres and sports shops.

Afternoon Tea: Put the kettle on and get baking. Entertain guests with raffles, auctions, tombolas & live music.

Air Miles: Collect your own, then raffle them off.

Aluminium Collection: Collect empty cans and tins and sell them to a recycling company.

Arts/Crafts Stall: Make necklaces, dried flower arrangements, stained glass mirrors, etc, to sell on a stall.

Art exhibition: Stage an exhibition for local artists. Charge entrance fee and commission.

As New Sale: AKA posh jumble sale. Ask everyone you know for unwanted belongings & hold a sale evening.

Auction: Auction off original items, taking a percentage of sales.

Auction of Services: Auction services of people and businesses - anything from singing lessons to dinner for two.

B

Badge Making: Make badges to sell at work, to friends or at craft fairs.

Balloon Race: Sell balloons that are filled with helium; the purchasers' name and address are written on a tag fixed to the balloon. The balloon that travels the furthest wins a prize.

Barbecue: Add stereo, football and rounders bats and make it a whole day's event.

Barn Dance: Swing into action by hiring a caller and traditional country band. Serve food & plenty of cider.

Battle of the Bands: Contest for unsigned bands - audience votes on the winner. Charge bands to enter, offer prizes and/or invite record producers. Sell tickets and run a cash bar.

Beat the Goalie: Score a goal and win a prize. Footballers pay to enter.

Beer Festival: Stock up on international beers, food and music. Remember to check licensing laws.

Bingo: Hold a one-off evening or regular morning sessions.

Board Games Evening: Invite friends over to play Scrabble, Monopoly, Cluedo and more. Charge entrance or game fee.

Boat Race: Teams build model boats and race them. Alternatively, use real yachts, dinghies or canoes.

Boat Trips: Organise a cruise down a nearby river or canal. Include refreshments & entertainment.

Book Sale: Sell old books, collected from everyone you know. Book dealers may buy leftover stock.

Bouncy Castle: A great way to keep kids entertained at bigger family events. Bouncing fee.

Burns Night: Run a Burns Night Meal with poetry, song, music, haggis, neeps and tatties. Charge an admission fee. You could also include some Ceilidh Dancing.

C

Cake Stall: Hold a traditional cake stand at fetes or fairs. Check health and safety regulations.

Calendars: Design & sell a pictorial calendar for your company. Departments/suppliers may sponsor pages.

Candle making: Make and sell candles at craft fairs or coffee mornings.

Car boot sale: Cash in your old belongings, or sell pitches. Raise more with bouncy castles, raffles, etc.

Car treasure hunt: Drive from clue to clue in search of the 'treasure'. Teams pay to enter.

Car wash: Wash cars at shopping centre or office car parks.

Carnival: Arrange a colourful carnival for your town, charging for each float entered.

Carol concert: Host a festive concert for your community. Earn extra by selling minced pies & mulled wine.

Carol singing: Get a group to go door-to-door singing. Bigger public displays may require a licence.

Casino evening: Hire gaming tables and a hall for the evening.

Ceilidh: Run an evening of Scottish dance and charge for entry. Money can be made by selling drinks, but a licence is required. You can also sell Haggis, Neeps & Tatties and include a raffle.

Charity ball: Raise sponsorship the sophisticated way. Organise a themed ball with DJ or live music at a hotel or nightclub. Charge for tickets, but boost your earnings with games and raffles.

Children's party: Organise children's parties or activities, but be sure to check relevant childcare practices.

Christmas draw: Sell tickets and ask local businesses to supply prizes. Check regulations about public draws & raffles.

Coach trips: Coach trips to London, Blackpool, flower shows, etc, are popular. Sell tickets and hold a raffle.

Coconut shy: Easily arranged game for traditional fairs. All you need are a few coconuts and wooden balls.

Coffee morning: It's open house for the morning. Make extra with raffles, bring and buy sales and cake stalls.

Concerts: Entertain the crowds with your own recital, or hire bands of musicians.

Cookery demo: Invite well-known chefs to share the recipe of their success with a ticket-paying audience.

Copper collection: Ask people to donate their collections of one and two pence pieces. This has also be done as a 'Copper mile' where you lay out the coins on the floor of a hall, in an attempt to cover a distance of a mile.

Craft fair: Make necklaces, dried flower arrangements, crafts, etc, to sell on a stall.

Cricket match: Assemble a team and challenge your county team to a match. Charge spectators.

Crossword contest: Compile huge crossword, so punters pay per clue. Each number hides a ticket for prize draw.

Crowdfunder page: Collect donations from folk you know, and offer some small token gifts in returns for different levels of donation.

D

Dance: Barn dances, tea dances, disco dances, salsa dances - whatever rocks your boat.

Darts tournament: Challenge all the pub teams in the area to compete for cash prizes, or a barrel of beer.

Dinner and cabaret: Hire a popular and spacious restaurant. Entertain ticket holders with music, comedy & magic.

Directories: Compile a community businesses and services directory. Raise funds through advertising.

Disco: Spin the decks or hire a DJ to stage a themed disco night. If it is for young people, run a tuck shop and sell sweets and drinks.

Duck race: Sell numbered plastic ducks and launch them from a bridge. The duck to finish first wins.

Dress Down Day: Introduce dress down day at school or work. Pupils or colleagues pay a fee to leave their uniform or suits at home.

E

Easter egg hunt: Edible hide and seek. Charge entry fee and ask confectioners to provide the eggs.

Eating marathon: Get sponsored to stuff your face with as many baked beans/grapes/pies etc. as possible.

Eyebrow shaving: Get sponsored to shave them off - they grow back eventually!

F

Face painting: Get creative with face paints at fetes, fairs and children's parties.

Fancy dress: Jazz up your event with a fancy dress contest. Charge entrance fee.

Fashion show: Ask businesses to sponsor venue, outfits or catwalk. Charge admission and sales commission.

Fete: Reach the whole community by holding a fete, or team up with organisers of an annual event.

Film evening: Recreate an evening of vintage cinema by showing classic films and musicals.

Fireworks: Weather permitting, firework displays are massive fundraisers. Check out safety precautions.

Flower arranging: Make your own fresh, dried or silk arrangements to sell at craft fairs or fetes.

Flower show: Always popular. Boost funds with competitions, advice corners & side stalls.

Football tournament: Schedule fixtures and charge teams to enter. Ask local businesses for prizes.

Foreign coins: Ask people to donate their leftover holiday coins. Change into sterling once you have enough.

Fun day: Arrange games, music, competitions and stalls at a nearby hall or sports club.

Furniture sale: Hire a large hall to sell donated furniture and old office equipment. Take sales commission.

G

Game show: Host mock version of Who Wants To Be A Millionaire or The Weakest Link. Otherwise adapt board games for big audiences, and get prizes donated.

Garage sale: Sell off all your unwanted belongings.

Garden party: Sell tickets or invite guests to make a donation.

Gardening: Offer your gardening services to friends and family.

Go Kart Grand Prix: Hold a Go Kart Grand Prix at the nearest track. Drivers pay entrance fee.

Greeting cards: Make and sell cards for every occasion. Find out about selling Christmas cards for your charity.

Guess the ???: Competitors guess how many sweets in the jar, a cake's weight, etc. The closest answer wins.

Guest speaker: Invite a guest speaker and sell admission tickets. Boost funds with raffle & refreshments.

Guided tours: Take tourists and visitors on locally guided walks or trips.

H

Halloween party: Another excuse to dress up and party. Charge entrance fees and raise money trick or treating.

Head shave: Sick of bad hair days? Go bald for charity. Gather sponsorship.

Hook-a-duck: Fete and fair game. Ask local companies to donate prizes.

Hoopla: Fete and fair game. Ask local companies to donate prizes.

Household sale: Sell off all your unwanted belongings.

I

Indoor market: Rent out stalls to local traders, or take cut of profits.

Inflatables: Put a bounce into your summer fete with an inflatable fly wall, boxing ring or gladiator court.

Ironing: Offer your ironing services - at a cost.

It's a knockout: Revive the 80s game show by inviting teams to compete in silly games in silly costumes.

J

Jailbreak: Dump teams in the middle of nowhere. With no money or transport, see who gets back to base first. Charge entrance fees and offer prizes.

Jazz festival: Play your own brand of jazz, or stage a show for local musicians. Sell tickets and refreshments.

Jewellery making: Buy your own beads and get threading. Sell your products at markets and craft fairs.

Junk mail: Collect all your junk mail and sell it to a recycling company.

K

Karaoke: Arrange your own singing contest. All you need is a machine, a room and a well-stocked bar. Licensing required for selling alcohol.

L

Line dancing: Country music is all the rage. Just make sure you have a caller who can teach the dances and plenty of drinks to sell!

M

Marathons: Get sponsored to run a traditional 26-mile race. Or offer to support the marathon organisers on the day for a decent donation to your fundraising.

Medieval evening: Themed evening of medieval food, jousting and entertainment.

Mile of pennies: Make a mile of pennies in your town centre. Ask shoppers to help by donating their coins.

Mini-Olympics: Invite everyone you know to compete in traditional & silly sports. Charge entry.

Music concert: Entertain the crowds with your own recital, or hire bands of musicians.

N

New year resolutions: Get sponsored to stick to your new year's resolutions.

O

Open garden: Open your garden to visitors. Sell tickets, refreshments, plants and vegetables.

Opera night: Stage an opera evening in your area, or arrange a trip to see a big London production.

Ornament sale: Set up a market/fair stall. Alternatively, plan your own event and charge for pitches.

P

Pancake race: Get flipping on Shrove Tuesday. Charge teams to enter, and spectators to eat.

Pantomime: Your chance to play the ugly sister. Stage a production with friends, family and colleagues.

Parachute jump: Daredevils only. Get sponsored to take the plunge. Age and Health Restrictions apply.

Parties: Pick a venue, a date, a theme... and party on. Sell tickets and charge for extras like food.

Personalised gifts: Sell uniquely personalised gifts for special occasions.

Pet show: Charge proud pet-owners to show off their cats, hamsters, bunnies, mice, etc.

Pick a cork: Fair game. Pick a numbered cork out of a board. If the number's a winner, claim a prize.

Pick a ticket: Fair game. Pick a numbered ticket from a bucket. If the number's a winner, claim a prize.

Picture framing: Frame and sell prints of local scenes, or pictures relevant to your expedition.

Plant sale: Sell donated plants or rent out pitches to traders.

Playstation play-off: Organise a league of players and compete on a certain game. Charge entrants.

Play your cards right: Fair game made famous by Bruce Forsyth. Guess higher or lower 6 times running & win a prize.

Pledges: Gather pledges of support, donations and services. These could be auctioned or raffled off.

Pop Concert: Hire a venue and invite local bands to play. Sell tickets and set up stalls.

Postage stamps: Collect and sell foreign and unusual stamps to dealers.

Private tuition: Whether it's French or Flamenco, sell your skills with private lessons.

Promotional gifts: Sell promotional gifts with organisation logo on.

Pub games night: Stage a championship of traditional pub games - darts, skittles, dominoes, cards, etc.

Puppet show: Pull in the crowds with a traditional Punch & Judy show, or something more innovative.

Q

Quizzes: If your local doesn't run a pub quiz, set one up. Test the regulars on pop, trivia or sport. Or run a one off pub quiz in your local Scout Hall or town hall. Run a bar to sell drinks.

R

Race night: The race is run on a large screen after all bets have been taken. A typical evening consists of eight races. Props (and film) are supplied by race operators. Some gaming regulations apply.

Raffle: Ask local firms to donate prizes and sell tickets. Check raffle laws with charity.

Raft race: Teams compete by building their rafts and racing over a set distance. Teams pay to compete.

Recipe book: Publish favourite recipes from local restaurants and chefs.

Recycling collections: Collect paper, aluminium, glass, etc, and sell on to recycling companies.

Refreshments: Sell teas, coffees, sandwiches, biscuits, cakes, etc, at any fundraising event.

Roll-a-ball: Fair game where player rolls a ball through a hole at the end of a bowling-type alley.

Roll-a-coin: Fair game where player rolls a coin down a chute, aiming to land on a playing card.

Roll-a-pound: Excellent addition to any unperson events like dinners, dances, ceilidhs... Pause the dancing, place a large bottle of whisky, rum or gin in the middle of the floor at one end of the hall, draw a line with chalk at the other end. Get people to roll their £1 and £2 coins towards the bottle. Leave the closest one to the bottle in play, and collect the others up. Encourage more people to beat the current closest. Closest coin wins the bottle.

S

Safari supper: Travel from restaurant to restaurant, having a different course at each stop. Ask restaurants to support your efforts, set a cover charge to include all food and your cut.

Sale of Christmas gifts: Sell Christmas cards, wrapping, gifts, food and drink.

Santa's Grotto: Pull on your white beard and brush up your ho, ho, ho.

Scavenger hunt: Variation on the treasure hunt where participants have a list of items to collect.

Scrap metal: Collect scrap metal and sell it to a scrap metal dealer or re-cycling plant.

Shoe shine: Get down on your knees at your nearest train station or shopping centre.

Shopping coupons: Trade in loyalty points for money or goods (to be used as prizes).

Silver collections: Ask supporters to donate their loose change collections.

Skittles: Make an evening event out of this traditional pub game.

Skydiving: Free fall your way back to earth - for sponsorship.

Sponge throwing: Players pay to chuck sopping wet sponges at whoever's in the stocks.

Sponsored silence: Mum's the word. Stay silent for as long as you can.

Sports competition: Whatever your game, organise a tournament. Sell tickets, and organise stalls, raffles, etc.

Stage play: Raise the curtain on a local Am Dram production.

Stationary cycle: Don't fancy the map reading? Forget cycling to Paris, but cover the same distance at the gym.

Strawberries & cream: Bring the taste of Wimbledon to your event, with this summery refreshment.

Street entertaining: Get juggling, tight rope walking, fire eating, knife throwing, unicycling...

Swap shop: Put unwanted items in touch with loving homes. Charge swappers to participate.

Swear box: Spend a £1 for every \$@*£\$! uttered. Put a box at home for your family, at your parents' work and, at the local pub...

Swim-athon: Get sponsored per length, mile, minute, hour...

T

Tabletop sale: Indoor variation on the car boot sale. Charge for table hire.

Talent competition: Discover Britain's next big thing with your own talent show. Charge entry and offer prizes.

Ten-pin bowling: Bowling alleys often have special rates for big groups & charity evenings.

Tin can alley: Traditional fair game. Knock down the stack of tin cans and win a prize.

Tombola: Pick a raffle ticket out of a barrel and match it with a ticketed prize. Fair & fete favourite.

Toy sale: In the run up to Christmas, toy sales can be big fundraisers.

Treasure hunt: Sniffing out the clues, teams compete against each other to discover the 'hidden treasure'.

T-shirts & clothing: Make and sell leavers hoodies or school trip t-shirts.

Tuck shop: Sell sweets, crisps, cake, drinks, etc, at a children's event.

U

Unwanted presents: Arrange a post-Christmas sale of unwanted gifts. Ask traders to donate a cut of their takings. Or collect donations of unwanted gifts and run a stall yourself - good for the environment as well as raising funds.

V

Variety show: Comedians, magicians, singers, dancers & musicians all under one roof.

Visits: Organising visits to local places or tourist destinations.

W

Waste paper: Collect waste paper and sell to recycling companies.

Water sports: Let others splash out as you splash in. Teach water sports or get sponsored to take part.

Waxing: A hair-raising experience for the boys. Get sponsored to wax your legs or chest.

Weight of the cake: Fair game. Pay to guess the weight - and win the cake if you're right.

Welly throwing: Fun for every fete and fair. Throwers compete to see whose welly goes furthest.

Whisky raffle: Charge a pound a ticket, and pick a winner for every 25 sold. Check licensing and raffle laws.

Whisky Coin Roll: Everyone rolls a pound coin along the floor of a hall towards a bottle of whisky. The coin nearest the bottle wins it, and you keep all the coins. Ideal for a break during a dance or Ceilidh.

Windscreen wash: Charge to wash windscreens at service and petrol stations. Ask permission first.

Wine & cheese: Ask supermarkets to donate the wine and cheese. Sell tickets, and produce to take away.

Wine tasting: Hold tasting sessions for wine companies. Charge commission on wine sold. Arrange a raffle.

Woodcutting: Offer to prune trees or chop firewood for friends and family.

Wood working: Make and sell your own woodcrafts such as bird boxes

X

Xmas evening: Stock up on crackers, pudding and mince pies. Break with tradition by holding it in July!

Xmas hampers: Make up and sell your own Xmas hampers. Include food, drink, toys and gifts. You could sell them at a mark up, or run a raffle to win them.

Y

Yard of ale: Challenge yourself and others to a lengthy drinking contest. Charge entry fee. (obviously not the challengers but can organise a contest at a local pub)

Z

Zodiac evening: Invite a guest astrologer for a star-studded fundraiser. Charge for entry and horoscopes.